

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SOFIA 1467

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EAGR, OVIP, BU, US
SUBJECT: FIRST DEPUTY MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE TSANOV'S VISIT TO US

ATHENS FOR AGATT

REF: SOFIA 1325

1. AT JULY 20 MEETING TO RECEIVE DRAFT GOB AGRICULTURAL STATEMENT (SEPTELS), DEPUTY MINISTER ISHPEKOV INFORMED AMBASSADOR OF CURRENT GOB THINKING REGARDING FIRST DEPUTY MINISTER TSANOV'S PROSPECTIVE VISIT. THEY ENVISAGE HIS SIGNING AGRICULTURAL AGREEMENT IN WASHINGTON. ISHPEKOV SAID TMAT THE GOB ENVISIONED SENDING FIVE OR SIX REPRESENTATIVES WITH TSANOV FOR THE VISIT, WHICH THEY PROPOSE FOR SOME TIME LAST HALF SEPTEMBER, OR POSSIBLY EARLY OCTOBER. REGARDING AGENDA, HE BELIEVED CONCENTRATING ON TWO OR THREE ITEMS WOULD BE MOST PRODUCTIVE, MENTIONING IN PARTICULAR SOY BEAN CULTIVATION AND PROCESSING AND MAIZE PROCESSING, BUT WITH A MORE SPECIFIC AGENDA TO BE DEVELOPED LATER.

2. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION FROM THE AMBASSADOR, ISHPEKOV SAID THAT AGRICULTURAL TECHNICAL MATTERS DISCUSSED BY PAPAHOV ON HIS VISIT LAST APRIL HAD BEEN TAKEN INTO
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ACCOUNT IN DRAWING UP THE BULGARIAN DRAFT OF AN AGREEMENT. HE ALSO DREW ATTENTION TO THE DESIGNATION IN THE AGREEMENT OF THE DIRECTORATE OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD INDUSTRY AS THE DESIGNATED POINT OF CONTACT FOR EXCHANGES OF TECHNICAL INFORMATION.

3. THE AMBASSADOR SAID HE WOULD INFORM WASHINGTON OF THE

SUGGESTED TIME FOR THE TSANOV VISIT, EMPHASIZING THAT IT WOULD OF COURSE BE NECESSARY FOR THE JOINT STATEMENT TO BE NEGOTIATED BEFORE SUCH A VISIT, AND THAT UNTIL WE HAD HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXAMINE THE BULGARIAN PROPOSAL AND SEE HOW MUCH TIME WOULD BE REQUIRED FOR NEGOTIATION IT WAS DIFFICULT TO KNOW WHEN THE SITUATION WOULD BE RIGHT FOR THE VISIT. IN ADDITION, IT WOULD OF COURSE BE NECESSARY TO FIND A MUTUALLY CONVENIENT TIME FOR APPROPRIATE SENIOR OFFICIALS OF USDA AND TSANOV. ISHPEKOV AGREED.
GARTHOFF

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